SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

COLLINS, Mac (Republican) Representative, 8th District, Georgia Elected 1992 to the 103rd Congress Reelected to succeeding Congresses

BACKGROUND

Born: Jackson, Georgia - 15 October 1944

Home: Hampton, Georgia

Marital status: Married (Julie) - 4 children

Religion: Methodist

Education: Jackson High School, 1962 Military: Army National Guard, 1964-70 Profession: Trucking company owner

Political: Georgia State Senate 1988-92. In 1992 ousted five-term incumbent Rep Richard Ray (D) with the help of redistricting and an anti-incumbent campaign. Uopposed in 1998; reelected with 63% of the vote in 2000. In 2002 elected with 78% to the newly-drawn 8th District. Previously represented the 3rd District.

Rep Collins, a plain-speaking conservative, worked on illegal drug control, government ethics revision and welfare reform in the Georgia legislature. Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport is the chief employer in his district. He has an interest in armed services issues--the district is home to Ft MacPherson and ft Gillem. Favors tax incentives for small businesses. He opposes homosexuals in the military, supports anti-abortion policies, a capital gains tax cut and a balanced-budget amdt.

In the 106th Congress, introduced H.R. 4072, to prevent the pending sale of F-16 fighter aircraft to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) until Dubai fulfills the terms of its contract with Pascoe Building Systems, Inc., a mid-sized manufacturing firm which is no longer in business. Suggested that the firm closed because of the failed contract. Said "it is time for Congress to defend American business against rogue foreign corporations that intend never to pay their bills." Introduced legislation to expand the geographic area of the TriCare Senior Supplement demonstration project for certain covered beneficiaries, to include one additional site. Opposed the supplemental appropriations for Kosovo; asserted "the NATO air campaigns must stop immediately." Recalled that he voted against sending ground troops to the area and against continuation of air strikes. Believed the NATO air strikes had little chance of accomplishing their stated goals. Added that he voted to withdraw US troops and prohibit the President from sending ground troops without the express authorization of Congress. Supported the School of the Americas; did not expect that it would be closed--"It's too important to our national security and foreign policy."

In the 107th Congress, during a Budget Cmte hearing, urged DepSecDef Wolfowitz to present a realistic picture of Pentagon needs as soon as possible, but keep in mind that Congress is seeking to keep spending increases to 4% or less.

At the beginning of the 108th Congress came off the Budget Cmte and was appointed to the House Permanent Select Cmte on Intelligence.

Additional: Member, C-130 Modernization Caucus

AF Bases: None

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